

Ukraine or other European allies, and export facilities currently under construction will not be operational until late 2015, at the earliest. It is opportunistic and frankly not based in fact, to have natural gas companies and their allies in Congress using this crisis as a catalyst for increased LNG exports.

Further, the U.S. does not have a state run energy conglomerate like Russia, and we cannot simply turn our energy exports up or down following a single executive decree. LNG export terminals cost billions and the companies making these investments will not proceed with their construction unless they have already secured LNG supply contracts, typically with Asian countries, like Japan, China, and India, where high natural gas prices will result in the greatest profits. If our concern is ensuring Ukraine has reliable energy sources, we should be talking to our European partners about how best to accomplish that goal.

Again, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

HONORING THE MEMBERS OF STILLWATER TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor members of Stillwater Trinity Lutheran Church and acknowledge their recent efforts to feed more than half a million people in a community food drive called "Meals from the Heart." This ambitious initiative will provide nutritious meals to be distributed through a variety of organizations from the Saint Croix Valley all the way to Tanzania.

"Meals from the Heart" is a community-led, full-scale mission to address hunger—both here at home and around the world. Beginning in 2008, Trinity Lutheran Church, located in Stillwater, Minnesota, has partnered with churches, schools, nonprofits, and local businesses, including Andersen Windows, to provide meals for those in need. Working together, their benevolent efforts have produced impressive results. During the past five years, 10,500 volunteers have packed more than 3 million meals that have been delivered to diverse locations, ranging from a church in Saint Paul to an orphanage in Haiti.

Access to affordable, nutritious food is fundamental to the health and economic success of communities. Unfortunately, for far too many, access to nutritious food is not dependable. Food insecurity is rising at an alarming rate, causing regional conflicts and forcing 1 billion people worldwide to struggle with chronic hunger and disease. In America, economic strain from the Great Recession continues to place significant financial hardships on families looking to put food on the table.

Just last month, our nation celebrated the 50th Anniversary of President Johnson's "War on Poverty." While President Johnson's call to action has resulted in profound change for a generation of Americans, our nation still must confront the stark reality that poverty, hunger, and income inequality persist today. To be successful in the fight against hunger, it will take collective action between public, private,

and community forces—just as we have seen with the "Meals from the Heart" program.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride I submit this statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, recognizing the benevolent actions of local volunteers and businesses who have collaborated to make a difference in combating hunger across the globe and in our own neighborhoods in the United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, on March 12, 2014, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 118. Had I been present I would have voted "nay" on ordering the previous question.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DOMINIQUE GELIN

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Dominique Gelin. Born and raised in Miami, Florida, Dominique is the proud daughter of immigrant parents. She has worked to shape policy and mobilize members of her community.

Dominique moved to Orlando to attend the University of Central Florida in the fall of 2008. It was there that she got her first taste of organizing her peers, encouraging them to vote and become a part of the process. After receiving her Bachelor's degree, she continued her community service, becoming a Youth Outreach Director and extending her work to high school students and young professionals.

Over the years, Dominique has had the opportunity to work with organizations like Ruth's List Florida, the National Congress of Black Women, and most recently, as an Aide at the Florida House of Representatives. In 2011, Dominique was awarded the Achievement Award by the Florida Commission on the Status of Women.

She looks forward to continuing her work by advocating for those with the most urgent needs through compassionate leadership.

I am happy to honor Dominique Gelin, during Women's History Month, for her contributions to her community.

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP OF SENATOR GERALDINE F. THOMPSON

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Florida Senator Geraldine Thompson. Senator Thompson began serving the people of Florida in 1970 when she worked as a Secretary for State Representative Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry, the first African American female to serve in the Florida House of Representatives. During her time with Representative Cherry, she learned that conditions could be changed and

lives improved through the enactment of legislation.

After working for several years, Senator Thompson enrolled at Florida State University from which she received a M.S. in Communication in 1973. She and her husband moved to Orlando and immediately became active in the Central Florida community. She later became the Assistant to the President at Valencia Community College where she served for 24 years. Among her many accomplishments was the establishment of the "College Reach Out Program." The program enabled thousands of low income and disadvantaged students to fulfill their dream of going to college.

As a public historian, Senator Thompson's passion for history led her to conduct research and compile documents which resulted in the publication of a book, *Black America Series: Orlando, Florida*, in 2003. She is also credited with preserving one of Orlando's unique landmarks, The Wells' Built Hotel, which housed some of America's most prominent citizens, including Justice Thurgood Marshall, Ray Charles, Ella Fitzgerald, Jackie Robinson and many more. She helped secure funds to convert the hotel into a museum which is known today as The Wells' Built Museum of African American History and Culture.

In November 2006, Thompson was elected to serve as the first African American female to represent District 39 in the Florida House of Representatives. As a state representative, she worked to bring about change, including sponsoring legislation to give pregnant women protection under the Florida Civil Rights Act, and establishing a lottery Ticket for the Cure to benefit breast cancer victims. On November 18, 2008, she was unanimously selected by her legislative colleagues to serve as the Democratic Leader Pro Tempore, the second highest ranking Democrat in the Florida House of Representatives. In November 2012, Thompson was elected to the Florida Senate. In December 2012, Senator Thompson was elected Chairman of the Orange County Legislative Delegation. She is the first female and African-American to hold the position of Chair.

Senator Thompson has been recognized with numerous awards. She received the Florida Education Association's Mary McLeod Bethune Humanitarian Award and the National Education Association's prestigious Mary Hatwood Futrell Award for her outstanding human rights work toward the advancement and education of women and girls. She is also a recipient of the Executive Women Award, the Legislative Award from the American Cancer Society, and the Martin Luther King Award from the Greater Orlando Alliance of Black School Education. She is also an Executive Board Member of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators.

Senator Thompson enjoys every opportunity to give back, such as arranging to have 40 students from Jones High School in Orlando attend the inaugurations of President Barack Obama in 2009 and 2013. She is married to the Honorable Emerson R. Thompson, Jr. She has three children, Laurise, Emerson III, and Elizabeth, and is the proud grandmother of four.

I am happy to honor Senator Geraldine Thompson, during Women's History Month, for her leadership and service to the Central Florida community.

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP OF CHERYL GRIEB

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Cheryl Grieb. Cheryl's recently widowed mother moved her and her three brothers from New Jersey to Kissimmee, Florida in 1974. Cheryl's Mom did not come from money and worked very hard in real estate to support her four young children. Following in her mother's footsteps, Cheryl started her career as a realtor at the age of 18. At age 24, she purchased her Mom's real estate company and opened her second real estate company at age 30.

Cheryl's Mom raised her to be active in her community and give back to society. In her twenties, Cheryl was appointed to the Osceola County Parks and Recreation Committee where she served for seven years. While on the Committee, she was involved with the purchase of the Overstreet property which became a 400 acre regional park. In addition to her passion for the environment, Cheryl loves historic structures. She spearheaded a task force that successfully preserved the historic Osceola High School for over five years, until the devastating hurricanes of 1994 finally sealed its fate. Cheryl was also on a task force which formed the first historic district in downtown Kissimmee and began a historic home tour in the downtown area.

As a realtor, Cheryl recognized the need to help low-income individuals to secure affordable housing. Along with a handful of dedicated people, she formed Habitat for Humanity of Osceola County. Habitat has helped numerous people in Osceola County realize the dream of homeownership. Her other community activities include Co-Chairing the Kissimmee Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society. The cause is near and dear to Cheryl's heart as her partner, Patti, is a cancer survivor.

After her election as City Commissioner in 2006, Cheryl became even more involved in her community. She has served as a Board Member of Community Vision, two-time Chair of the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Chair and Council Member of the Tourist Development Council, Chair of the Greater Osceola Partnership or Economic Prosperity, and Director for Florida PACE. In addition, she was instrumental in passing domestic partner benefits for the employees of the City of Kissimmee. This victory won her the "Voice for Equality" award from Equality Florida.

In June of 2007, Cheryl's Mom had an asthma attack that caused a fatal heart attack claiming her life. In response to the tragic loss of her Mom and role model, Cheryl decided to have an event that would showcase downtown Kissimmee and raise funds for the American Heart Association, as both her parents had succumbed to heart attacks. Cheryl's efforts helped create Kissimmee Main Street and the first annual Kiss-im-mee 5K.

This past February was the sixth annual race which brought hundreds of people to downtown Kissimmee and raised thousands of dollars to help combat heart disease.

I am happy to honor Cheryl Grieb, during Women's History Month, for her dedication to her community.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF
PEGEEN HANRAHAN

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Pegeen Hanrahan. Pegeen is a registered Professional

Engineer and Principal of Community and Conservation Solutions, LLC. A native and lifelong resident of Gainesville, Florida, she served as its Mayor from 2004 to 2010, and as a City Commissioner from 1996 to 2002, leaving office both times as a result of term limits.

Pegeen has over twenty-five years of experience in environmental remediation, public participation, grant writing, land conservation, and local government finance. With the Trust for Public Land, she has helped develop and pass ten successful bond or sales tax initiatives for land conservation and parks in Florida. She also serves as a leader of Florida's Water and Land Legacy (FWLL), a statewide citizen's initiative to provide sustained funding for land and water conservation and ecosystem management.

With the support of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Pegeen has assisted communities in the adoption of a clean energy program known as feed-in-tariffs (FITs). Gainesville is the first city in the U.S. to implement a solar FIT, also known as a CLEAN (Clean Local Energy Accessible Now) Program. With over 18 megawatts of solar power installed, Gainesville is now in the top ten in installed solar per capita in the U.S. Pegeen also assisted in the adoption of CLEAN programs in Ft. Collins, Colorado and Palo Alto, California. She has spoken on the topic in over 20 communities in the U.S., Canada, Germany, and Brazil.

Pegeen served as an Engineer and Hazardous Materials Program Manager for the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department for over five years, a Senior Vice President of Terra-Com Environmental Consulting for five years, and an Executive Director of Alachua Conservation Trust for three years. She has been the Engineer of Record on numerous remediation projects to remove hazardous contaminants from soil and groundwater. She has also completed work in the fields of landfill design, stormwater management, hazardous waste management, climate change, sustainability, and energy conservation. She has completed projects for over forty different cities, counties, water management districts, state agencies, non-profits, and private clients.

Pegeen has served as President of the Florida League of Mayors and Chair of the Alachua County Library District. In addition, she serves on the boards of Florida State University's LeRoy Collins Institute, the Mayors' Innovation Project, ICLEI-USA: Local Governments for Sustainability, the Children's Movement of Florida, Innovation Gainesville, the Alliance for Renewable Energy, Ruth's List, and Alachua Conservation Trust.

She has received numerous honors, including being named a "Woman Who Makes a Difference" by the Gateway Girl Scout Council, a "Woman of Distinction" by Santa Fe College, and a "Voice for Equality" by Equality Florida. She is also a Florida Audubon "Women in Conservation" award winner and was named "The Female Democratic Elected Official of the Year" three times by the Alachua County Democratic Executive Committee.

A member and former alumni sponsor of the prestigious Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, Pegeen holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Environmental Engineering, and a Bachelor's in Sociology from the University of Florida. She is a member of Leadership

Florida and Florida Blue Key, UF's Leadership Honorary.

Pegeen is married to Tony Malone, a Professional Engineer in the field of civil infrastructure. Together they are the delighted parents of Evyleen Mary (age eight), Quinn Joseph (age seven), and Tess Lucille (age three).

I am happy to honor Pegeen Hanrahan, during Women's History Month, for her many contributions to the state of Florida.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF MARY JANE ARRINGTON

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Mary Jane Arrington. Led by her mother's example, Mary Jane has devoted her life to community involvement. Beginning in childhood, Mary Jane served her community through her church, school, 4-H, and Girl Scouts. Public service is something she is very passionate about. She began her public service 44 years ago when she first moved to Osceola County, working in her children's schools and serving on numerous community organization boards and committees.

Elected in 1994, she is the first and is still the only woman to be elected to the Osceola County Board of County Commissioners. Mary Jane was elected by her peers to serve as Commission Chairman and served as a County Commissioner until 2002. During her tenure she was a true visionary working to promote regionalism and improve transportation in the Central Florida region. Mary Jane championed the restoration of Osceola County's historic courthouse and oversaw the construction of the new courthouse and administrative buildings.

After her time on the commission she continued her public service as one of the founding Supervisors of the Toho Water Authority, a regional water authority. She continued in this role until 2008 when she was elected as Osceola County Supervisor of Elections.

Setting milestones is something Mary Jane continues to do in her capacity as the Osceola County Supervisor of Elections. She has worked diligently to enhance the services provided to the voters of Osceola County. By bringing the latest technology to the Elections Office she has streamlined procedures and made the voting process easier and more accessible for voters. Her insightful leadership has received national recognition.

Mary Jane has a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration from the University of Central Florida and is a graduate of Leadership Florida. She is one of only 800 nationally certified elections professionals and, this year, will be designated a Florida Master Certified Election Professional.

Outside of her responsibilities as Supervisor of Elections she is very active in the community where she serves as Chairman of the Osceola County YMCA Board of Directors and as a Member of the Executive Board of the Central Florida YMCA. She is also a very dedicated and involved member of the First United Methodist Church of Kissimmee.

Mary Jane and her husband of 46 years, Curtis, have passed on their love of public service to their four children who also serve the Osceola County community and the Central Florida region in varying capacities. They are also extremely proud grandparents of three grandsons. Mary Jane follows her personal creed of "living each day trying to accomplish something, not merely to exist."

I am happy to honor Mary Jane Arrington, during Women's History Month, for her dedication to the Central Florida community.

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF
DONNA SINES

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Donna Sines, Executive Director and Founder of Community Vision. After a stint in banking, Donna dedicated her life to helping Osceola County, Florida. As Executive Vice President of the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce, she worked to redevelop Downtown Kissimmee, transforming it from a troubled area into a point of pride for the city.

She also launched Leadership Osceola County (LOC) which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. LOC has educated and inspired more than 1200 graduates to contribute to the betterment of their community and make holistic decisions regarding community wellbeing. LOC has hosted programs spanning the spectrum from middle-school kids and teens to senior citizens. Donna was twice recognized by the late Florida Governor Lawton Chiles for programs and projects she oversaw. She also led the effort to restore the Historic Kissimmee train station, the first volunteer project of its kind in Osceola County. A number of community playground builds in economically challenged areas can also be credited to Donna.

In 1995, Donna left the Chamber to start a grass-roots, non-profit organization called Community Vision. Working out of her living room, Donna worked to unite her community in a shared vision. Thousands from all walks of life participated and a movement was born. In 2004, when four hurricanes ravaged Osceola County, including Community Vision's office and her home, Donna oversaw an "unmet needs committee" which raised \$750,000 to help residents restore their homes and lives. Community Vision utilizes a collective impact model in addressing issues. It functions as the umbrella organization bringing the public, private and independent sectors together to develop innovative solutions to complex, systemic problems confronting the Osceola community. Donna's impact can be felt throughout Osceola County. She secures financial resources and volunteer support to take on the impossible.

Donna's touch is most felt when addressing those community issues that affect our most vulnerable and at-risk residents. She secured a \$1.3 million federal grant to provide free primary healthcare to the un- and underinsured through the Mobile Medical Express initiative. Beginning with the Mobile Medical Express, the community developed a secondary care network which includes two free clinics.

Most recently, Donna has focused her efforts on the plight of the homeless. Community Vision offers intensive, career-readiness initiatives to put folks back on payrolls and families on the road to self-sufficiency. Community Vision also has an employment coach for the long-term unemployed and a full time Impact Homelessness Director.

It is her selfless spirit, love of community and "can do" attitude that drives Donna to address those tough challenges and makes her a valued community treasure.

Donna touts her greatest accomplishment as raising and educating her son Derrick, who exemplifies success as a father, husband and bread winner. She is also blessed with beau-

tiful and smart grandchildren, Connor and Kendall, who brighten her world with their love.

I am happy to honor Donna Sines, during Women's History Month, for her many contributions to the Osceola County community.

JOCELIN ALONSO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jocelin Alonso for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jocelin Alonso is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jocelin Alonso is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jocelin Alonso for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING FULL SAIL
UNIVERSITY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Full Sail University on the occasion of its 35th anniversary. Since its founding in 1979, Full Sail's vision has been to help creative students pursue their dreams in the entertainment industry.

When Full Sail first opened its doors 35 years ago, it aimed to couple traditional classroom work with career-specific development as well as training in real world production studios to propel students into the sound and music industry. As its students' dreams and passions grew, so did the university. Full Sail quickly evolved and now offers 44 unique degrees including animation, games, web design and film. In 2013, Full Sail earned a top ten spot on StudentAdvisors.com's list of "Top 100 Social Media Colleges."

Full Sail University boasts over 42,000 graduates, and is currently providing its 17,000 students with an innovative education to help achieve their goals. Graduates have continued on to companies such as Disney, ESPN and HBO Studios.

I am pleased to recognize Full Sail for its dedication to equipping students for fulfilling careers, and I thank the University for continuing to bolster the educations and passions of future generations.

HONORING MR. DAN KIMBALL

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Dan Kimball, and to congratulate him on his retirement. Mr. Kimball is an outstanding individual who has served as the Superintendent of Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks.

A 27-year veteran of the National Park Service, Mr. Kimball has previously served as Chief of the NPS Water Resources Division. In this capacity he successfully led efforts to settle national park water resources, specifically in the western United States in parks such as Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks. Mr. Kimball has also served as Assistant to the National Park Service Deputy Director in Washington, DC, Incident Commander representing the U.S. Department of the Interior, and at the Florida Peninsula Command Post in response to the Deepwater Horizon/BP Oil Spill.

Throughout his career, Mr. Kimball has been recognized for his exceptional work. His vast array of awards includes the Department of the Interior's Superior Service Award, the Pacific Northwest Regional Director's Award for Professional Excellence in Natural Resources, the Southeast Region's Superintendent of the Year Award, the President Rank Award—Meritorious Executive, and the American Recreation Coalition's Legends Award.

Having known Mr. Kimball for a number of years, I know that he has consistently demonstrated the highest degree of integrity, character, and professionalism. He has been dedicated to his career and has worked tirelessly for the protection of our environment and, more specifically for Florida, the preservation of the Everglades. The state of Florida and the nation as a whole have truly been lucky to have such an exceptional individual heading our national parks. Beyond that, over the years I have had the privilege of getting to know Dan on a personal level, and am honored to now call him my friend. I wish nothing but the best for Dan, his wife Kit and their son, and again congratulate him on his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. Dan Kimball for his tremendous service to Florida, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL TOP 10 AWARDS CEREMONY OF THE GREATER DETROIT CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN BUSINESS OWNERS

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Greater Detroit Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) as its members gather for the Twentieth Annual Top 10 Awards Ceremony. The Top 10 Awards provides the Greater Detroit Chapter of NAWBO